I matter not how I appear to Man,
A Witneſs in my ſoul there lives that can
Bear Record to the Father this, that I,
Seek not Mortals praiſe, but Immortality;
That Crown of reſt and peace I may receive,
Which Mortals have not in their power to give,
Which he muſt do who ſets me free from ſin;
And being clean, in peace there rules that King,
Who will not joyn unto Iniquity,
But of a Virgin pure conceiv'd is he.

WHen I call to mind thoſe pretious movings that were ſtirring in many, I cannot forget, though you have back-ſlidden and turned back to *Egypt* for help, the Lord paſs by your weakneſs, and lay it not to your charge: But all know the Call wherewith the Lord our God hath called us, is a holy Call, and we know it is bondage to the uncircumciſed nature, yea, verily we have found it ſo, but yeilding obedience to the light, we have found that nature crucified in meaſure, and the Croſs made eaſie by him that beareth it in us, who is come to purge out the old leaven, and make the lump like unto himſelf, we having all ſinned after the ſimilitude of *Adam*, and for ſin is the earth curſed, and in ſorrow muſt we bring forth, and the ſeed of the Woman ſhall bruiſe the Serpents head; but verily friends if it be known no otherwiſe, than barely by reading thoſe Words, 'tis but a ſandy foundation, and will not ſtand, being brought in by the outward ſenſes, as the eye, or the ear, which all may attain to, that knowledge; yet none ſhall know the myſtery, but thoſe in whom it is revealed

by the Light; therefore 'tis in vain to get coverings, they shall not save you, for God is known as he is obeyed in his light, which is holy as he is holy; Therefore return to within, and deal plainly as before the Lord, and see if by your long hearing, are you redeemed from your vain conversation, or witness the new birth, or what makes you differ from the World? but verily I say unto you 'tis not your hearing, or wishing to be as the redeemed of the Lord are, but you must come to the work, and put your hand to the plow, and look not back to pleasant *Sodom*, if you do, the Lord will have no pleasure in you: And this know, we have known nights of sorrow, before we knew a day of joy, and assuredly, so must you, if ever you come to see the seed spring out of a dry ground, which is covered over with the earthly, which must be yielding before the seed come up, therefore come to the Light which makes manifest your evill deeds, and see if it will deceive you, or hath deceived us, for so we are accounted of by the dark World, that dares not come to the Light to have their evil deeds reproved by it, neither can the wicked stand in Judgement, and therefore have they got themselves an outward covering thinking thereby to escape; but all know we must stand nakedly bare before God, and all must be judged according to the works done in the body, whether they be good or evil; & this we know whom the Lord is redeeming to walk with him in purity and holiness, knowing we are alwaies before him, and by his Light in us judging and condemning sin in our works, words, and thoughts; and though all the World condemn us, yet we know him near that justifies, in us the hope of glory; and for this end hath he set up his light a standard in the earth, to call in any that is weary and thirsty to come and drink of the water of life freely, without money and without price, and those that drink thereof, shall have it in them springing up to eternal life; and this I say unto all. come and see him, for this is no other, but the *Messias* who have told me all that I have done, and who can declare this but the begotten Son of God, & this is he by whom the Prophets prophesied,

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and this is he whom the Apoſtles ſaw and bare witneſs of, the Lamb ſlain from the beginning, the firſt and the laſt, and thoſe muſt know the Son in them who calls God Father, for none knows the Fathe but the Son, and thoſe in whom he will reveal him, and this is the Bread which came down from heaven, by which Bread we live, and by it our ſouls are nouriſhed up unto eternal life; and as there is nothing of abſolute neceſſity for the body but bread and water, ſo there is nothing of abſolute neceſſity for the ſoul, but this Bread and Water, without which we cannot live, for it pleaſed the Father that in him all fulneſs ſhould dwel, of whoſe fulneſs we partake grace for grace, love for love, and this is our Light, and life, Jeſus, God manifeſt in fleſh, to deſtroy the works of the Devil, and then we can truly call him Saviour, for he hath ſaved us from our ſins, but he that ſaith he hath no ſin, and yet liveth in ſin, is a lyar, and knows not him that ſets free from ſin, and thoſe whom the Son makes free, are free indeed; and no new Goſpel do we preach, (as the world do falſly accuſe us of) but bears witneſs to the ſame life, whoſe body ſuffered at Jeruſalem, and was crucified by the unbelieving Jews, whom God hath raiſed, of whom I bare witneſs, I never knew him by the hearing of the outward ear, nor by reading the Letter with the outward eye, but I knew him by that word of life preached, which word is near in the heart, which word the Apoſtle preached, which word you muſt come to witneſs to be that which turns the mind to God, & then ſearch the Scriptures to know whether theſe things be ſo or no, for they are for the perfecting the man of God through Faith in Jeſus Chriſt.

To any that call themſelves the Miniſters of Chriſt, and yet know not that Chriſt that was the Word in the beginning, before the Letter was writ.

You that make a likeneſs of any thing, is but an idolatrous Worſhip, teaching for doctrins the Commandments of men, is but imitation, which *Moſes* rod will deſtroy, who had not known there had been a Chriſt, had not the

Letter declared it to you; you never knew the door, but are climed up another way, you must come down for no Thief must enter his Kingdom, nor buyers nor sellers dwel in his Temple, but the free gift must be freely given, without money or without price, neither can any truly preach free grace, but those that witness a Saviour, the Son of God come to fulfil the Law of God, and save his People from their sins, which is the grace of God which hath appeared to all men, teaching us to deny all ungodliness and worldly lusts, which war against the spirit, and being saved we can truly call him Christ, the great power of God to Salvation; but you have gotten so far into the spelled name of the dead Letter, that you have lost the life or the interpretation, which is God with us; and though you have sold *Joseph* into *Egypt*, because of his party coloured garment of his Fathers love, yet to him must you all bow, or starve for want of the Bread of life, for the Famine will be great amongst you, for all shall be committed to him the chosen seed, to whom the promise is; Therefore build not high, *Babel* like, for the Lord comes down to see the Sons of men, and he will confound the Imaginer, therfore to build sure is to build low that the Rock may raise the foundation, which Rock is Christ, the expres Image of the Father, who dwels with the low and contrite heart, that fears his word; but they that know him no nearer than sixteen hundred years ago, they know him not, but whilst they stand gasing up, a cloud receiveth him out of their sight, but that same Jesus which ascended up descended, and is the light of the world, and all that will receive the light, he gives power to become the sons of God, by that son who came to do the will of God, the elect, sanctifier, the justifier, the glorifier, the annointed high Priest for ever, who is come to reconcile God unto man, and man unto God, by washing and cleansing with his blood of life; some are thereby made fit Temples for the Holy God to dwell in, whom I bear witness will not joyn to iniquity or any unholy thing, but to those whose wills he hath subjected to himself, there he rules and hath put all things

things under him, and it is they that witneſs a whole Saviour, that everlaſting Prince of peace. And this cannot you witneſs, who believe you cannot be cleanſed here, but in another world; but take heed that that faith do not fail you in the hour of death, that you know not, who, nor where, nor what your Saviour is, and ſo go to the grave where there is no place of repentance; for as ye ſow ye ſhall reap, and as the tree falls, ſo it lies, and the Crown of life, the white ſtone, the new name is promiſed but to him that overcometh: Now let the eye of God, the light which is pure, ſearch you, and ſee if you rightly know the thing by which you are called Goſpel-Miniſters; but be not deceived, neither deceive others, for a Cup of Sufferings you muſt feel to cut down all pride, ſelfiſhneſs, before that glad tydings you ſhall receive from him whoſe kingdom is not of this world, but comes contrary to it. Therefore to you tender ones, who are able to judge ſomewhat in ſpirituall things, fear nor to go down to *Ioſeph*, for though he may ſeem a rough man to thoſe that ſold him, yet to *Benjamin* doth his bowels yern to make himſelf kuown: but no man was to ſtand by while *Ioſeph* made himſelf known unto his brethren, the truth of which you ſhall find, that God may be glorified, who ſees not as man, but rightly knows the heart, and works all to the good of them that in truth loves him, he will open to them that knock, and all that truly ſeek him ſhall aſſuredly find him. Therefore it is my deſire that none of you ſit down till you have found him whom your ſoul loveth. But if you wil be high and not come down, 'tis not many years but you ſhall feel a famine, and whether you wil believe or no, truth it is that hath been declared.

A warning to all thoſe that are at eaſe in Sion, and will not come out to help the Lord againſt the Mighty in this great day wherein he is dividing the pretious from the vile, the righteous from the unrighteous.

Wo to all you who wil not come out to help the Lord, for it is his good pleaſure to gather to him a people, & to ſetup this name among them, *Holineſs to the Lord*. And this is the word of Truth unto you, What could he have done more to his people than he hath done? He digged about them, and made a hedge, and looked that they ſhould have brought forth Grapes, but there came

came up Briers and Thorns: he looked for judgement, but behold oppression; for mercy, but behold a cry: therefore will he let forth his Vineyard to other Husbandmen that shall bring forth fruit to the Lord thereof. Therefore you literall Jewes haste to repentance before the Decree be sealed, for a sealed number hath the Lord said there shall be; and if the Jewes, the first called, will not come, the high-way Gentiles shall be compelled in. O it is lamentable to see how you Jewes have evilly requited the Lord, he hath not been lacking unto you in discovering his love to you first: but many of you have turned like the Dog to his vomit, and like the Sow washed to the wallowing in the mire; and though the God of the World hath blinded your eyes that you cannot see, but satisfying your selves in saying, we cannot be clean here; but did you love the good God as you do the God of this world, you would find his power as able to keep you from sin, as the other to keep you in sin: but deceive not your selves, the eye of the Lord sees what your heart lusts after, and all those who are in the light they see you also, how with fained words and fair speeches you draw neer to God, but your hearts are far from him, and that none but the eye of God the Light, can discover, but you must joyn to it, for it is those that receive him to whom he gives power to become the sons of God. I know it is the wil of God Israel should be saved, therefore joyn your wills to his, that his word may be accomplished, and sit not down til the Dove hath found rest for the sole of her foot, which will not be till the waters are abated, which you shall see done by the word of his power, his Son, the light of the world, and Saviour of all those that believe in him. But if you are so high you will not bow to that little thing, to stoop down to it, know of a truth you may kindle sparks of your own, but you shall lye down in sorrow; for a witness for it I am, and I dare not keep silence, that there is no other name given by which you can be saved, but by the name *Jesus*, the Word which was in the beginning, which shewed *Adam* he had sinned, and *Cain* he was not accepted, because envie was in his heart to his innocent brother, which he after manifested; which Word was known to *Noah*, *Abraham*, *Isaac*, and *Jacob*, *Moses* & all the Prophets, which was the same which is known by that name *Immanuel* or *Jesus*, God manifest in flesh, born

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of a pure virgin, which you literal Jews say you know; but it is but the same knowledge your forefathers had, they said he was to be born, and of a virgin in *Bethlem*, of the seed of *David*, as the Prophets of the Lord had said.

Now you say he is born in *Bethelem* of a Virgin, and of the Seed of *David* as the Apostles have said, yet could not the Jews by their learning and works of the Law, know him when he was born, nor you by your learning, nor imitating the Apostles know him that is born, and though you were invited to the Feast, you should have taken the lowest place, till the Master of the Feast had bid you go up higher, but you boldly went up without his leave, but behold a more honorable person is come in, and you must go down lower, for it is he that humbleth himself shall be exalted, and he that exalteth himself, shall be brought down, and this I know there is no struggling or striving with him, he will make you bow, and bend you or break you in pieces.

Let no one envy his Brother but abide in love.

Know you not that every envious man is a murderer, and the Lord heareth the cry of the innocent, why are you envious at your brothers sacrifice, because it flames, if you do well are you not accepted? if not sin lyeth at the door, what if thy brothers do burn and thine doth not? would you kill him because God hath accepted him? but cease your rage and know for a truth *Israel* shall not alwaies be in bondage under *Pharaohs* Task masters, though they may command to kill the man-child, yet lovely *Moses* is born, but is to be hid in the rushes, and after nour shed up in *Pharaohs* Court, and he not know it, and that is he that shall deliver poor *Israel* from his hard bondage, if you know not what this means, then know that God is not known by wisdom, or humane learning, but he is the same God that changeth not, and as he did formerly he doth now, he brings to pass his strange work, which seems to you learned ones a foolish and low thing, yet he will by this foolish thing confound your wisdom which hath puft you up with a high confidence that you can say well, but you have gone too far without your guide, having skipped the Law and the Prophets, and are come as far as Gospel or Christ, but truly friends you must come back again to the first Chapter of *Genesis*, and there read the first dayes work which

God

God did, he divided the light from the darkneſs, and the light he bleſſed, becauſe he ſaw it was good, and the darkneſs he called night, and ſo he went on with every dayes work, till the whole Creation was finiſhed. Look not out, for this creation you muſt witneſs wrought in you, before you come to the Sabbath, the Lord of reſt; for our God is a God of Order, and *Moſes* was to do according as he ſaw the patern ſhewed him, and all this is to be ſeen in the light; but how *Haman*, or mans proud wil, that is ſo highly advanced will come down off the Kings horſe, to give poor *Mordecai* that place, I know it will be death unto him: but he muſt down, the king hath decreed that honor unto *Mordecai*, and as the Lord lives he ſhall have it, let the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing, yet ſhall his Son be ſet on that holy hill Sion.

Thinks humane wiſdome I can eas'ly ſee
The Scripture can this thing declare to me;
But it's not known by pleaſure, eaſe or ſleep,
Who finds this Pearl muſt dig both low and deep
And whoſo finds before it be his own,
He muſt ſell all to purchaſe that alone,
And caſt up all his ſtock, and look within,
Before to build this houſe he doth begin.
Remember Babel, do not build too high,
Nor make a Tower to reach unto the sky,
Nor look without, but turn thy eye within,
See Chriſt be laid, then build thy Houſe on Him,
Who builds not on this Rock, ſhall ſurely fall,
For hee's the Corner-ſtone uniteth all.
Ceaſe then a while, you humane learned men,
And know your wiſdome cannot find out him.
Thou willing and obedient, know it 's thee
Whoſe vail is rent to ſee this myſtery:
It's not the prudent, learned, wiſe, that ſhall
Him comprehend, who is the light of all.
Follow the light, for ſure'ly 'twill thee bring
Where he is born, then bow and worſhip him.
No ſooner is he born, but thou ſhalt ſee,
That Herods nature by its cruelty.
Seeks to deſtroy that New-born-babe in thee.

Known to many by the name of
Suſanna Bateman.

The 12. *moneth in the year* 1656.

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